

The scope of this assessment is Central America. The pest risk assessment was conducted using PPQ's historical experience with this crop from Mexico and C.A. countries, literature, quarantine pest databases, and interceptions on this host.

See Attachment #1

Host: Ocimum spp. BASIL (Lamiaceae)
Part: Above ground part
Country: El Salvador

Previous decisions:

Basil is authorized entry from Mexico, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Panama, and Nicaragua in Central America.

Interceptions 1985 - 1993:

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BASIL PLANT PESTS FOR FY 85-93

HOST TOTAL	ORIGIN	PEST	WHERE
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OCIMUM BASILICUM (LEAF)	COSTA RICA	AGROMYZIDAE, Species of	04
4	OCIMUM BASILICUM (LEAF)	COSTA RICA	CICADELLIDAE, Species of
04	1	OCIMUM BASILICUM (LEAF)	COSTA RICA
	04	1	COCCIDAE, Species of
		OCIMUM BASILICUM (LEAF)	COSTA RICA
SP.	04	1	MACROSIPHUM
MIRIDAE, Species of		04	1
COSTA RICA	NOCTUIDAE, Species of	04	1
BASILICUM (LEAF)	COSTA RICA	TINGIDAE, Species of	04
1	OCIMUM BASILICUM (LEAF)	HONDURAS	CICADELLIDAE, Species of
01	1	OCIMUM SP. (LEAF)	COSTA RICA
of	04	7	AGROMYZIDAE, Species
NOCTUIDAE, Species of		04	1
COSTA RICA	SPODOPTERA SP.	04	1
(LEAF)	EL SALVADOR	APHIDIDAE, Species of	01
OCIMUM SP. (LEAF)	EL SALVADOR	MIRIDAE, Species of	1
1	OCIMUM SP. (LEAF)	GUATEMALA	PYRAUSTA SP.
01	1		

	SUM	24	

15 rows selected

Significant plant pests:

None were reported in the available literature as specific to this crop in El Salvador.

Additional Information:

This assessment was based on previous decisions for this product from

Central America and Mexico and our experience with the plant pests associated with the movement of this product.

The Quarantine Plant Pest Databases lists similar pest complex that may be associated with basil from Central America.

The effects of plant parasitic nematodes on basil has been tested in the laboratory and shown to decrease roots or foliage (Roades, 1988). Imports of above ground plant parts would exclude these nematodes.

Interceptions have been few and most of them were imature stages that could only be identified to family level, none were identified to species. PPQ expects imports of basil from El Salvador or other Central American countries will reflect the same pest load.

Recommendation:

Permit entry from El Salvador and any other Central American country subject to inspection.

References:

- EPPO. 1994-05. European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization, Plant Protection retrieval System, ver. 2.0
- Farr, D. F., G. F. Bills, G. P. Chamuris and A. Y. Rossman. 1989. Fungi on plants and plant products in the United States. American Phytopathological Society, St. Paul, Minnesota. 1252 p.
- FAO, 1993. Global Plant Quarantine Information System List of Intercepted Plant Pest Database
- Literature search of computer databases. 1992. Search of Agricola, CAB, Biological Abstracts, Cambridge Scientific and AGRIS (FAO) completed on September 14, 1994.
- Quarantine plant pests database. 1992. Search completed on September 13, 1994.
- Roades, H. H., 1988. Effects of several phytoparasitic nematodes on the growth of basil, Ocimum basilicum. Annals of Applied Nematology. 2, p. 22-24.

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